

Dated: _____

10/560171

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Yukio Aoki

Confirmation No.: N/A

Art Unit: Not Yet Known


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Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Applicants hereby claim priority under 35 U.S.C. 119 based on the following prior foreign application filed in the following foreign country on the date indicated:

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|----------------|------------------------|---------------|
| <u>Country</u> | <u>Application No.</u> | <u>Date</u> |
| Japan | 2003-169962 | June 13, 2003 |

A certified copy of the aforesaid Japanese Patent Application was received by the International Bureau July 29, 2004 during the pendency of International Application No. PCT/JP2004/008557. A copy of Form PCT/IB/304 is enclosed.

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